

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 3, 2004

H.R. 4056 Commercial Aviation MANPADS Defense Act of 2004

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on May 12, 2004

CBO estimates that H.R. 4056 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues. H.R. 4056 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 4056 would encourage the Administration to take steps to protect commercial aircraft from the threat of portable, shoulder-launched missiles (commonly known as MANPADS). The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is currently developing technologies to combat MANPADS. H.R. 4056 would require the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to support DHS's efforts by certifying the airworthiness of those technologies and preparing certain reports. According to the FAA, the agency already plans to do most of that work under current law. Hence, CBO estimates that any increased costs to the FAA under H.R. 4056 would be negligible.

The bill also would encourage the President to use diplomatic efforts, including treaties, to limit or destroy MANPADS. According to the Department of State, its Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement already has programs in place to destroy and limit the availability of MANPADS. The bill would require an annual report to the Congress on the progress of these efforts, but CBO estimates the cost of the report would be negligible.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Megan Carroll, and Sunita D'Monte. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.